



Welcome to the TOWNSHIP OF **FLORENCE, NJ**

Press Release For January 27, 2023

1. Florence Township Water and Sewer: UPDATE

Florence Township Water Department routinely monitors for the presence of federal and state regulated drinking water contaminants. New Jersey adopted a standard, or MCL, for PFOA in 2020 and monitoring began in 2021. The MCL for PFOA is 0.014 parts per billion (ppb) and is based on a running annual average (RAA), in which the four most recent quarters of monitoring data are averaged. On January 12, 2023 we received notice that the sample collected in December, 2022 was 0.0078 ppb and below the regulations. Since October, 2022 the water has remained in compliance; however, because the running average (4 quarters of testing) is over the DEP limits, we are required to send out a notification letter to the residents and businesses. Florence Township has consulted with our water engineer and the DEP to develop a corrective action plan. We will continue to test the wells to ensure the safety of our residents. For more information, please contact David Lebak at (609)-499-2518.

For frequently asked questions and answers regarding PFOA Levels, please go to the township web-site main page, under "Departments" click on "Water and Sewer" scroll down and click on "PFOA Questions".

2. Recycling Center:

The recycling center hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

3. Township Activities:

***Health & Wellness:** Weekly Gentle Fitness classes are held every Thursday 11:00 a.m. to Noon at the Florence Twp. Community Center, 69 MainStreet, Roebling.*

***Library Association:** The crochet group meets every Friday from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

Florence Twp. Board of Education: January 30, 2023 at 7:00PM

RC Vehicle Open Floor: February 1, 2023 4:30PM-6:30PM

Florence Township Council Meeting: February 1, 2023 at 7:00PM

Environmental Commission Meeting: February 2, 2023 at 7:00PM

4. Fire District:

The Annual Election for the Office of Fire Commissioner for one (1) three-year term and one (1) one-year unexpired term, a Property Tax Cap Levy Referendum, and the adoption of the 2023 Fire District Budget on February 18, 2023, from the hours of 2:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Florence Fire Co. #1, 401 Firehouse Lane, Florence, NJ 08518.

5. Zoning & Planning Board Meetings:

For the safety of our board members, professionals and the public, residents are encouraged to attend the meeting virtually. Instructions for virtual attendance can be found on the Township's Home Page website www.florence-nj.gov. Zoom recordings are made available on the website (www.florence-nj.gov) the next day.

The Planning Board's Regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

The Zoning Board's Regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

6. Township Projects:

The below projects have started. We apologize for any inconvenience these projects may cause the residents and thank you for your patience.

2022 Road Program:

The 2022 Road program is 90% complete. The bike trail crossing at Broad St. will have a lighted pedestrian crossing installed. The contractor is waiting on materials. The contractor will also return in the Spring for some final clean-up and grass restoration.

The Wilber Henry project is complete, and some final restoration will take place in the Spring there as well.

9th Street:

The 9th Street project is 90% complete and waiting on some material for the pedestrian crossing at Olive St. and Cedar St.

7. Police Department:

If you have an emergency, dial 911. If it is a non-emergency requiring police response, call (609) 267-8300. The police lobby window will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 8:00a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you require police assistance, please use the yellow call box located by the Municipal Building Main Lobby doors. A police officer will subsequently be dispatched to handle your matter. Please see the Police Department website (<https://florence-nj.gov/public-safety/police/>) to obtain Police Reports, Handicap Placards or call (609) 499-3131.

8. Water Service Lines Letters:

In July 2021, P.L.2021, Ch.183 (Law) was enacted, requiring all community water systems to replace lead service lines in their service area within 10 years. Under the law, Florence Township is required to notify customers, non-paying consumers, and any off-site owner of a property (e.g., landlord) when it is known or unknown, if they are served by a lead service line. A letter was sent out on 9/1/22 to those residents this new law may affect. Note that per C.58:12A-41, section 2, the definition of a lead service line now includes lead connectors (lead gooseneck, lead pigtail, or other lead fitting) and galvanized service lines. Our service line inventory is available at www.florence-nj.gov. A service line is a portion of pipe that connects the water main to the building inlet. In Florence Township, the service line is owned entirely by the property owner. The service line materials are [lead/galvanized/unknown]. Florence Township is developing a lead service line replacement program. If you are planning to replace your lead service line, contact us at (609) 499-2518 prior to replacement so that we can coordinate our efforts.

9. Municipal Offices:

For the safety of our employees and the public, we encourage individuals to wear a mask while inside the municipal building, especially if you are not feeling well. We encourage the public to continue to use the drop box located inside the front entrance to the Municipal Building for all payments, license renewals, construction permits, etc. Normal office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

10. Township Council Meetings:

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 1, 2023 starting at 7:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting in-person. Instructions for virtual attendance can be found on the Township's website (www.florence-nj.gov), on our Facebook page (Florence Township), or by calling the Township Clerk's Office at 609-499-2525, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you are

unable to attend the meeting in person or virtual, you can review the zoom recording of the meeting beginning the next day by going to the township website or the link posted on our Facebook page.

There are several ways to view the zoom recording:

1. Click on “Documents” tab, then click on “Recorded Zoom Meetings”.
2. Click on “Government” tab, then click on “Recorded Zoom Meetings”.
3. Click on “Documents” tab, click on “Agenda & Minutes”, click on 2022 Township Council, and at the top of the page “Click Here to View Township Zoom Recordings”

11.Tax Bills & Water/Sewer Bills:

Payments can be made online www.florence-nj.gov or use the Drop Box located next to the trophy case in our front lobby. **The Drop Box will be checked multiple times daily for your convenience. Payments must be check or money orders, NO CASH.** Please provide a phone number with your payment and we will call to confirm payment was received. Please allow 48 hours for your payment to be posted to our online account portal. Feel free to call the office with any questions, 609-499-2525. The office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any documents left in the drop box will be processed and mailed back to residents as needed. The Drop Box is available 24/7 for resident’s convenience.

12.Construction Office:

The office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Residents and developers dropping off permits, plans, etc. are encouraged to use the drop box located inside the front entrance to the Municipal Building. Any questions, please call the Construction Office at (609) 499-2130.

13.Municipal Court:

We encourage individuals paying tickets and/or fines to continue to pay on-line or use the drop box located inside the front entrance to the Municipal Building. Please contact the Court Office at (609) 499-2222 if you have any questions. The court office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday.

14.COVID COMMUNITY IMPACT:

If you would like additional information on COVID-19, including county-wide totals for daily new cases from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), please visit <https://covid19.nj.gov/>.

TESTING:

Burlington County's COVID-19 Test Site is now offering a COVID only test, or a combined COVID-19/Flu panel. This is not a rapid test. Results are generally available within 48 hours depending upon lab volume.

Visit the Burlington County Health Department website for dates and times: co.burlington.nj.us/1927/COVID-19-Testing.

To make it easier for everyone to be able to get COVID-19 test kits, the federal government is letting people order free home tests again at <https://www.covid.gov/tests>. Each household can order 4 free at-home COVID test kits. Orders should begin shipping the week of 12/19/22. Order yours today so you can test and protect your family during holiday gatherings! The Health Department is administering both Monovalent and Bivalent vaccines. Monovalent Vaccine for the Primary Series protects against severe complications from the original strain of COVID-19. The Bivalent Booster protects against severe complications resulting from infection from the original strain, as well as the BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron strains of COVID-19. The Omicron strain is the predominant strain that is currently circulating. The best protection is achieved by completing your primary series and getting your booster shot as soon as you are eligible.

VACCINES OFFERED:

- ◆ *Primary Series (Monovalent)*
- ◆ *Pfizer: 6 months – 4 years/5 – 11 years/12 years and older*
- ◆ *Moderna: 6 months – 5 years/6-11 years/12 years and older*
- ◆ *Novavax: 12 years and older*
- ◆ *Booster Shots (Bivalent)*
- ◆ *Pfizer: 6 months and older*
- ◆ *Moderna: 6 months and older*

Vaccinations for homebound individuals can be scheduled by calling the Mobile Medics at 844-569-0390. If no one answers your phone call, leave a message with your name and best contact phone number, and someone from Mobile Medics will call you to schedule your in-home appointment.

The CDC has approved the administration of bivalent vaccine for children under 5. Burlington County Health Department COVID clinics are now administering the “baby bivalent” vaccines per CDC and FDA guidelines. The bivalent vaccine protects against serious complications from the original and Omicron strains of COVID-19.

Individuals wishing to book appointments elsewhere can visit NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Finder to get an appointment at locations throughout New Jersey at <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/finder>.

MASK RECOMMENDATIONS:

KN95 or N95 or double layered well-fitting surgical and cloth are still recommended by the CDC in certain situations (immunocompromised, etc.).

Websites for looking up approved KN95 and N95 masks are: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html> and www.ProjectN95.org

Mayor Craig Wilkie



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